

Dublin, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Second Month 1843

Dear Friend

Maria W. Chapman

I got a corner of Henry C. Wright's sheet to Garrison - and I wrote him a letter that it will take a four-Wendell Phillips-paper to decipher - I did not write it badly on purpose - oh no - but simply in my own natural style of writing, which in all the Free States - among all the abolitionists - is every where spoken against. No matter - I will keep up my heart. However I hope Garrison is sufficiently recovered to be able to bear the fatigue which my letter must necessarily impose upon him. Even if he should with all your help decipher it, he won't find there what I wrote it for - and with true Irishman felicity - left out test stuff. This was neither more or less than a message to thyself about a matter that will I suppose seem very dumb to make such a fuss about - the O'Connell manuscript. In the almost year which has elapsed since its departure for your shores two very anxious messages have been sent to me by O'Connell's secretary for that manuscript - which I sent away empty by saying first that O'Connell had given it to me himself - <sup>which he did</sup> and secondly, that it was gone to America. Now I have little doubt that if the great man were dead it would be looked on as quite a prize, and therefore if it be not sold I would be obliged by thy keeping it over for a good market, either with you or in Ireland. Being a tradesman I have of course a keen eye to the money and I would be glad to squeeze as much out of nothing as possible. As to myself I am not an autograph collector in the proper sense of the word. What ever I get, I give away, and I have no collection of any kind except (now, you should all rise up - and make me a profound bow) except a few letters from American Abolitionists - who were the forte of my idolatry a year, or two, ~~ago~~ or three ago. Now, alas! I find - and I am glad of the discovery - that they are only very delightful, trusty, and well-beloved men and women. O'Connell's health has been some- what alarmingly bad lately - so that when he appeared at the Theatre a few days ago, before a large audience, the Duke of Leinster in the chair, and a great many noblemen & such small deer around him to take part in the proceedings of a meeting assembled to devise a



testimonial to Father Matthew - there were such a burst of popular welcome such a real Irish welcome from the galleries and the pit - but not from the boxes - as would have frightened all the Boston blood from its propriety. O'Connell is not a great man in the meaning. He is a big man, with a big head, vast skill and Demosthenian ability. He blundered and tickled the people on this occasion with consummate adroitness and unfairness. He is no testotaller - he never took the pledge - but he has allowed it to be supposed that he was one - and during the time he drank wine in public to the great scandal of those who really love him and to the delight of the anti testotallers, which includes most of the well dressed high church and high state people in Ireland. Henry Wright thought James Haughton

speech was the only one he heard at that meeting which had heart and consistency in it. As to ability and raciness of course O'Connell was pre-eminent - but it was a taste in the mouth - it left no strength - no body - behind it. His heart is not - and I fear none was in the movement. It is headed by another and a very different man, whose influence is in some degree antagonistic to his own. Father Matthew is no active politician, and he is now recommending repose from agitation. I believe him to be a truly honest man, as far as a man who is a priest can be honest. But undoubtedly he is not much of a Mrs. Chapman. The meeting was a crowded and very large assembly - it consisted of people of all classes and parties - and sects - and sexes - and yet the feeling of respect and gratitude was unanimous towards the noble hearted and pure handed moral regenerator of our country. Another thing - all ideas of a statue or a "Rumford hill" monument to commemorate him, was discarded as unworthy of the man and of the occasion - and it was resolved that whatever he decided on shall be something of a practically useful and beneficent character. The selection is left to a Committee who shall choose from all the plans they approve of, two or three - which are to be presented to Father Matthew to decide which he would prefer.

Lord Bunsford read a few evenings ago - as I heard the letter to Lord Bunsford. It reads very well - and is quite a good one. Lord Bunsford's letter to them. There is a few nice grand ideas of them which as I would expect from him. I feel but can't put into words - about all genuine moral enterprises being like chain balls - where one goes the other, is sure to effect a lodgement. Temperance - anti Slavery - Peace Principles have thus made way for one another. This is an excellent idea - but it holds good to my mind the other way - this action of the chain-balls. I hope for little honestly good or good from the man who formed an important member of that British cabinet which gave the national sanction to the horribly mean, cruel, and brutal like Affghan & Chinese invasions. I don't think all Rogers



sparkling, pure and bright New Hampshire highland streams, would wash Lord  
Morpeth's hands and heart clear of the infamy they contracted there. Lord  
Morpeth is no longer a man - he is a politician, with his eye to the Eden  
from which he is shut out - the peer and of Downing Street and Secretary  
ships. I think that the letter he wrote for the Liberty Bell and all his acts  
in America had a reference to his political standing rather than to his  
heart's convictions. I don't doubt but he is one of the best of his class - but  
all such men - all active politicians, do very unaccountably and writes things  
and you can never depend on them or on their honesty, which even a chance  
remains of extraction to the heights of command. What does he mean by  
his compliments to householders - as to their ~~possessing~~ - their piety - their  
worth? - Why don't they show the fruit of all these virtues, by trying to  
humanize and liberate the whites - and freeing their own bondsmen? Why  
don't they do as they would be done by? What he says is very true  
- that you yourselves must do the work. It is little that any other country  
and people can do for you. Yet why ~~don't~~ try and extinguish the sympathy  
that is felt in some few hearts in these islands for your noble labours - by  
persuading us that we can do nothing for you? I am not sorry he wrote  
the letter and that you published it. I don't know what you think of it. But I  
hope you now know what is the ~~best~~ help you can <sup>expect</sup> ~~hope~~ from one of the best  
lords in England.

oblige me by thanking Lord Wendell Phillips in my name for his lecture  
on Chertism and for the paper "Watchman! what of the night?" I read  
Night & Day in Boston long ago and had forgotten. I saw that article. I  
have sold given away so many Anti-Slavery Books in order to spread  
the knowledge they contain that my own library is very small com-  
pared with what it might be. As to the Chertism, ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Wendell</sup> speaks boldly  
and beautifully - but I don't know what to say. I have small hope  
and so whatever little I have, is barely enough for householders - for  
the good it may do, by evoking upon individual convictions. Elizabeth Pease  
thinks that the materials are fast multiplying in England for a whole  
army of disciples of Dr. C. Wright's peaceful (though they be) wild &  
fanatical doctrines. I have great ultimate faith in truth & justice  
though I cannot help seeing that the obstacles which lie in their way  
are tremendous. I look upon Joseph Sturge as decidedly one of the  
most honest Chertists in England - one of those who would sacrifice the  
most for the poor, and would stand up most boldly for their rights. If  
he be, then with day, what shall we say of the rest? I think him better  
and somewhat narrower minded of course - but that his aspirations & efforts are



for the right I have no doubt. But when we consider the power, the wealth, the station, the consideration and the influence which the aristocracy enjoy - how the people are ready to bow down before them in their presence however they may raise them in their absence how church and state and crown and government are mixed up with aristocratic influences and associations - when we look at all these things - I don't know what to say of Chartism or to hope for the people from its influence, however we may like it in a popular gathering or in an American lecture. The present government may do as they please with Chartism. They are powerful - they have the confidence of the clergy and the church aristocracy - and the middle class ~~but hardly~~ crumple before the mighty confederations - however they may crowd in the newspapers.

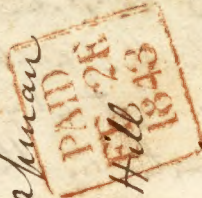
It is only just now (and it is a chilly and cold windy evening) that a newspaper has come to me from Manchester full of talk about the league - and it is enough to sicken me to see all the fools the league's make about the peers that are coming and the peers that regret ~~to come~~ they can't come - and those who decline to come, &c.

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Boston

U.S.A.



prepaid

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As this letter is rather for me than beauty, excuse the "Bursleigh" fold - it is likely to tear. I wish some kind Christian would tell me how fortunate Kimbro is going on with his Vermont home and his famous husband. Is she acclimated? - have you seen her and warmed her heart by a Highland welcome to your icy ~~climate~~ regions. I often hear from Elizabeth Pease - but ~~and~~ have not heard for a week or so. H.C. Wright is now in Manchester after three months in Ireland with us or our people - rather bad company, by the way, for any one who loves a good sleek reputation.

This will do for an answer for ~~me~~ ~~answers~~ to the letter thus had written me which is now I suppose half dead with sea sickness as it rushes across the heaving water that lies between us. My wife is well - strong hearted and busy handed. I wish them knew what a woman she is - equal to the noble in 1835 - ready for any thing good or true - Tell Garrison he need not mind writ - This may make him do so. Nothing else will. Oh! give our love to Collins and to "Emilia" - and never forget poor Bradburn - and ask Remond is he really going to be married. If I forget my self, it is a way I have. Thine ever respectfully Rich D Webb